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NEW YORK UNIVERSITY–BELLEVUE MEDICAL CENTER
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DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOLOGY OREGON 9-3200

May 23, 1957

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Dept. of Medical Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wis.

Dear Joshua,

Bernie has 2 pyridoxineless mutants in the W strain which we are sending to you. 22-99 is accelerated by serine or glycine, 154-59L is not. I don't know whether or not the B-6 requirement can be replaced by amino acids, and Bernie(whom I just called about it) doesn't know either.

I have done one penicillin experiment with K-12 to look for arginine auxotrophs, but didn't get any. I used W1895, W2035, and W677 as starting cultures. Any arginine auxothophs you have in K-12 would be useful for us, even if they are blocked in other places. We have one here, K-12-138 which is blocked in carbamyl phosphate synthesis(requires arginine and pyrimidines), and which we got from Novick.

In regard to different coli strains we have one phenomenon which is quite curious: we observe the feed-back phenomena I described to you in the W and the K-12 strain, but not in the B strain. In the B strain, the addition of arginine to the medium does not depress the synthesis of our enzyme; and growing an arginine auxotroph in the chemostat with limiting arginine does not raise the level of the enzyme.

Thank you for sending me the name and adress of Constance Thomas. She seemed like a nice person.

Best regards, also to Esther,

yours,

Werner Maas